

CASTLE DONINGTON
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

(CHARLES HARWOOD, M.D.),

FOR THE YEAR 1895.



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CASTLE DONINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT FOR 1895.

GENTLEMEN

I beg to present my Report relating to the health of the District during the Year 1895.

The Area of the District is 14,486 Acres.

At the Census of April, 1891, the population was found to be 6,893.

To the middle of 1895, the estimated population amounts to 6,682.

During the year, 171 births were registered, viz., 96 males, and 75 females.

The deaths were 101, viz., 47 males, and 54 females.

The natural increase of the population by the excess of births over deaths is 70.

The birth-rate for the year was 25.5 per thousand of the population.

The death-rate for the year was 15.1 per thousand of the population.

The infantile death-rate (*i.e.* infants under 1 year) was 4.1 per thousand of the population.

The following table shows the ages at which the Deaths occurred throughout the District, viz.:—

Deaths under 1 year of age	...	...	28	}	36 under
„ over 1 „ and under 5 years			8		5 years.
„ „ 5 „ „ 15 „			0	}	65 over
„ „ 15 „ „ 25 „			5		
„ „ 25 „ „ 65 „			31		
„ „ 65 „ „ ... „			29		5 years.

Total ... 101

Of these 101 Deaths, 7 were caused by the Zymotic class of Disease, viz. :—

Scarlatina	...	1	...	at Lockington.
Diphtheria	...	1	...	„ Breedon.
Enteric Fever	...	1	...	„ Kegworth.
Whooping Cough	...	3	...	„ Castle Donington.
Diarrhœa	...	1	...	„ „ „
		7		

Of the Zymotic deaths, six occurred in children under five years, and one over that age.

The Zymotic death-rate was 1.0 per thousand of the population.

Nineteen Notifications of infectious cases scheduled under the Notification Act were received during the year, viz. :—

Scarlatina	...	...	...	...	8
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	7
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	3
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	1
					19

All of which received my personal attention, and the usual instructions were given respecting disinfection and isolations, as far as it could be carried out, as I have frequently pointed out “Isolation is impossible in the houses of the poor,” and “unsatisfactory in better class houses.” As there is no infectious hospital in the District, we must go on in the future on the lines hitherto adopted.

The Zymotic history of the District may be related as follows :—

Small Pox.—No cases of this disease were notified.

Scarlet Fever.—Eight cases—Two at Tonge, one being in the house of the Station Master, who took lodgings away from home, so as not to endanger the spreading of the disease in the performance of his duties. Five occurred at Lockington in the house of a labourer at a farm from whence milk was sent away, and as I reported to you at the time “the house is a good half-mile away, and as all communication is stopped between it and the farm, and the usual precautions taken, the danger of the milk being contaminated is reduced to a minimum.” The

youngest patient, an infant, died. The remaining case occurred at Kegworth, where the proper means were adopted, and the disease did not spread.

Diphtheria.—Seven cases were notified with one death at Tonge. This took place in a farm house, from whence milk was sent to London. I made an inspection of the place and suggested certain alterations in the dairy. There were also cases of Diphtheria and Diphtheritic sore throat at Kegworth, four cases being in one house in a back lane, originating, most likely, from the nuisance caused by the emptying of privies in the neighbourhood, two of these patients having been engaged in the work. There was also a case at Castle Donington, attributable to escape of sewer gas into the house and untrapped drains.

Croup.—No cases.

Typhoid Fever.—Three cases at Kegworth, two being of a mild character, but the third ended fatally. This occurred in a low-lying part of the town, where the drain was rather faulty. I was told, however, that the disease was contracted away from home.

Puerperal Fever.—No cases.

Whooping Cough.—Several cases and three deaths.

Measles.—No cases came to my knowledge.

The susceptibility to both these diseases is so strong that few persons have passed the age of childhood without having contracted them, and isolation is of little avail. The popular belief being that children must contract them sometime, and that there is, therefore, little use in endeavouring to take any protective steps when either disease is epidemic.

Erysipelas.—One case notified at Castle Donington.

Overcrowding of Houses.—One reported at Kegworth, which I found not to be the case. Another at Castle Donington, where eleven persons (the youngest seven years of age) were sleeping in two very small rooms, capable of accommodating only four or five. A notice was ordered to be served.

Schools.—There was no occasion to close any of the schools during the year in consequence of any epidemic of infectious disease. At Kegworth, I am pleased to report that some requisite improvements have been made with regard to the outbuildings of the schools. The Castle Donington schools might be improved in like manner with advantage in a sanitary point of view.

The remaining ninety-four deaths are classified under the following diseases, viz. :—

Phthisis ...	...	...	...	9
Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	8
Heart Disease	...	...	...	11
Influenza	...	...	...	1
Injuries	...	...	...	4
All other Diseases	...	...	...	61
Total				94

Eight inquests were held during the year.

Of these 101 deaths only one was uncertified.

The 1891 Census Population, and Estimated Population to the middle of 1895, and the Births and Deaths for the villages during the year were as follows, viz. :—

BREEDON.

Area in Acres, 3133.

Census population, 649. Estimated to middle of 1895, 700.

Births, 18, viz., 8 males and 10 females.

Deaths, 9, viz., 3 males and 6 females.

3 died under ... 1 year of age.

1 „ between 1 and 5 „

1 „ „ 25 „ 65 „

4 „ over ... 65 „

The diseases were—Diphtheria, 1. Respiratory disease, 1. Heart-disease, 1. Not classified, 6.

CASTLE DONINGTON.

Area in Acres, 3573.

Census population, 2596. Estimated to middle of 1895, 2691.

Births, 63, viz., 39 males and 24 females.

Deaths, 40, viz., 20 males and 20 females.

11 died under ... 1 year of age.

3 „ between 1 and 5 „

2 „ „ 15 „ 25 „

11 „ „ 25 „ 65 „

13 „ over .. 65 „

The diseases were—Whooping Cough, 3, Diarrhœa, 1. Phthisis, 6. Respiratory diseases, 3. Heart disease, 2. Influenza, 1. Not classified, 24.

DISEWORTH.

Area in Acres, 1800.

Census population, 369. Estimated to middle of 1895, 393.

Births, 9, viz., 8 males and 1 female.

Deaths, 5, viz., 4 males and 1 female.

1 died under ... 1 year of age.

1 ,, between 15 and 25 ,,

3 ,, ,, 25 ,, 65 ,,

The diseases were—Respiratory, 1. Heart disease, 1.
Injuries 1. Not classified, 2.

HEMINGTON.

Area in Acres, 1200.

Census population, 358. Estimated to middle of 1885, 375.

Births, 13, viz., 5 males and 8 females.

Deaths, 4, viz., 1 male and 3 females.

1 died between 25 and 65 years of age.

3 ,, over ... 65 ,,

The diseases were—Heart disease, 1. Injuries, 1. Not
classified, 2.

ISLEY WALTON AND LANGLEY PRIORY.

Area in Acres, 920.

Census population, 53. Estimated to middle of 1895, 59.

Births, 3, viz., 1 male and 2 females.

Deaths, none.

KEGWORTH.

Area in Acres, 2160.

Census population, 2149. Estimated to middle of 1895, 2238.

Births, 59, viz., 31 males and 28 females.

Deaths, 40, viz., 19 males and 21 females.

13 died under ... 1 year of age.

3 ,, between 1 and 5 ,,

2 ,, ,, 15 ,, 25 ,,

14 ,, ,, 25 ,, 65 ,,

8 ,, over ... 65 ,,

The diseases were—Enteric Fever, 1. Phthisis, 3. Heart
disease, 5. Injuries, 2. Not classified, 26.

LOCKINGTON.

Area in Acres, 1700.

Census population, 219. Estimated to middle of 1895, 226.

Births, 6, viz., 4 males and 2 females.

Deaths, 3, viz., 3 females.

1 died between 1 and 5 years of age.

1 ,, ,, 25 ,, 65 ,,

1 ,, over ... 65 ,,

The diseases were—Scarlatina, 1. Heart disease, 1. Not
classified, 1.

Now that Castle Donington and Kegworth possess a Public Water supply, it is to be hoped that the inhabitants will discard their shallow wells for drinking purposes, for whatever difference of opinion may exist, I think it must be admitted that the public water is by far the most suitable, even though the other water cannot be pronounced dangerous to health.

No cases of unsound meat, or unsound food of any description have been brought to my notice during the year.

My Monthly Reports to you will have kept you pretty well informed of my Sanitary work in the District.

I have maintained and carried out my customary and regular visits of Inspection in my District, and where there has been any outbreak of disease, I have made several visits with a view to check it, and give instruction to the parties concerned.

The year has not been a very eventful one in a sanitary point of view. We have not had an *extensive* outbreak of any of the Zymotic diseases, and those small ones previously mentioned were kept under control.

It is a matter for congratulation that Influenza, a most unmanageable and treacherous ailment, has been conspicuous by its absence, compared to previous years; one death, however, was attributed to it.

I append the usual Tables, and beg to thank you for your courtesy to me during the year.

Yours faithfully,

C. HARWOOD, M. D., &c.

Medical Officer of Health.

Castle Donington Rural District Council.

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	14,486
Census Population of 1891...	...	...	...	...	6,393
Estimated Population to middle of 1895	...	...	...	...	6,682

Deaths for the Year, 1895—Males, 47 ; Females, 54.
Total, 101.

Death Rate for the Year, 1895	...	15·1	per 1,000
Infantile Death Rate	„ „	4·1	„
Zymotic Death Rate	„ „	1·0	„

TABLE 1.

Diseases.	Under 5 years of age.	Above 5 years of age.
Scarlatina	1	0
Diphtheria	1	0
Typhoid Fever	0	1
Whooping Cough	3	0
Diarrhœa	1	0
Phthisis	0	9
Respiratory Diseases	5	3
Heart Diseases	0	11
Influenza...	0	1
Injuries	1	3
All other causes	24	37
	36	65
Total ... 101		

TABLE 2.

BIRTHS IN THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR, 1895.

Males	...	...	...	...	...	96
Females	...	...	...	...	...	75
Total						171

Birth Rate for the Year, 25·5 per 1,000.



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